Application No.: 10/573,591

Art Unit: 1797

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1-14 (Canceled).

15 (Previously Presented). Method for separating gases from a gas mixture, wherein

the gas mixture to be treated is passed through a membrane separator by means of a

compressor installation comprising a compressor element with liquid injection whose

injected liquid is separated in a heated state at the exit of the compressor element, by a

liquid separator, wherein the compressor installation generates heat available for

recuperation heating and wherein the compressed gas mixture to be treated is cooled

at least in the compressor installation to separate condensate from the gas mixture,

after which, as the compressed gas mixture leaves the compressor installation, the

compressed gas mixture is re-heated before it is passed through membrane separator,

comprising the step: said reheating comprising using the heat of the separated liquid

to re-heat the gas mixture.

16 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 15, wherein, during the

reheating step, use is made of the heat of the compressed gas mixture at the exit of a

compressor element of the compressor installation.

17 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 15, wherein, during the

reheating step, use is made of a recuperation heat which is drawn from the

compressed gas mixture to be treated while carrying out said cooling step.

18 (Canceled).

19 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 15, wherein the compressor

installation is equipped with a cooler for cooling the compressed gas mixture and in

which a cooling medium is heated by the compressed gas mixture and thereby

- 3 -

Application No.: 10/573,591

Art Unit: 1797

contains heat available for recuperation heating, comprising using the recuperation

heat of the cooling medium during the reheating step.

20 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 15, wherein after the cooling

of the gas mixture, the gas mixture is passed through a dryer.

21 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 20, wherein said dryer uses a

desiccant.

22 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 20, wherein the dryer is a

cooling type dryer.

23 (Previously Presented). Method according to claim 15, wherein, after the cooling

of the gas mixture the gas mixture is passed through a filter or through a set of filters

and adsorption elements.

24 (Currently Amended). Device for separating gases from a gas mixture comprising:

a compressor installation having an inlet and an outlet for a gas mixture to be treated,

said compressor installation comprising a compressor element with liquid injection

and a liquid separator incorporated in a compressed air line located at the exit of the

compressor element, said exit being connected to the liquid injection system via a

return line and a membrane separator whose entry is connected to the outlet via a

supply line; and a radiator in the supply line through which the gas mixture to be

treated flows, wherein the radiator is part of a heat exchanger included in said return

line the compressor installation.

25 (Previously Presented). Device according to claim 24, wherein the heat exchanger

is incorporated in a compressed air line between the exit of a compressor element and

- 4 -

Application No.: 10/573,591

Art Unit: 1797

the exit of the compressor installation.

26 (Previously Presented). Device according to claim 25, wherein the heat exchanger

is a cooler which is part of a cooling type dryer of the compressor installation.

27 (Canceled).

28 (Previously Presented). Device according to claim 24, wherein the compressor

installation includes at least one cooling circuit and wherein the heat exchanger in the

supply line to the membrane separator is part of the cooling circuit.

29 (Previously Presented). Method according to 15, wherein the compressor

installation further comprises a radiator positioned between the liquid separator and

the membrane separator, which radiator forms a primary side of a heat exchanger, and

wherein the compressor installation further comprises a by-pass line including an

adjustable valve bridging a secondary side of the heat exchanger, wherein during the

reheating step, the use of the heat of the separated liquid to re-heat the gas mixture is a

function of the position of the valve.

30 (Previously Presented). Device according to claim 24, wherein said radiator forms

a primary side of the heat exchanger and wherein the compressor installation further

comprises a by-pass line including an adjustable valve bridging the a secondary side

of the heat exchanger.

- 5 -